

REMARKS

Introduction

Claims 1-19 remain pending in the above-identified application, with claims 1-4, 7 and 17 and the specification having been herein amended in response to the Office Action of January 10, 2005. New claims 20-22, all in dependent form, and Figures 5 and 6 have been added for clarification. No new matter has been added.

A Fee Transmittal is enclosed with the submission of this paper for the addition of the two new dependent claims in excess of a total of twenty claims (i.e., 22 total claims now pending). The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the excess claim fee of \$100.00 required for the entry of this Response, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0675, Order No. 051319/0163.

Accordingly, claims 1- 22 are now pending in this application.

Objections to the Drawings

The drawings stand objected to for a number of informalities. Replacement drawings have been submitted herewith in order to remedy the objections in the office action. No new matter has been added.

In addition the Examiner has objected to the drawings under 37 CFR § 1.83(a), to wit, that the drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. The Examiner has specifically stated that the recited structure of claim 10 and 11 must be shown or the claims canceled.

While the Examiner did not specify what elements are not shown, the Applicants surmise that the Examiner wishes the elements of the spiral grooves recited in each claim to be

more clearly shown. Applicants contend that each element of claims 10 and 11 are shown in the drawings and wishes to point out that the spiral grooves are indeed already shown in Figure 1. For instance, with regard to claim 11, the shaft and spiral groove on the surface of the shaft are clearly shown in Figure 1 by reference numeral 1-1.

Nonetheless, Applicant has added Figures 5 and 6 to more clearly show in differing embodiments spiral grooves both on the surface of the shaft 1-1 and on the inner face of the sleeve 2-2. Support for the addition of these drawings is found in the Specification in at least paragraph's [0051], [0053], [0054] and [0055], and the Specification has been amended to add description for the drawings. No new matter has been added.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner withdraw the objection to the drawings.

Objections to the Specification

The Examiner objected to the disclosure on the basis of a number of informalities.

First, the Examiner objected to paragraph [0012] on page 3 as not defining the term "CRBC". This paragraph has been amended to define this term.

Second, the Examiner objected to the specification and drawings for not identifying the collar with a reference number. Paragraph [0022] has been amended to clearly show that the housing and can seal each have a collar. Thus each collar is identified by the respective reference numeral for the housing and the can seal. Support for this is taken from the appropriate drawings and claims themselves, which also comprise part of the disclosure.

Third, the Examiner objected to the specification for failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claim subject matter. The Examiner specifically stated that there is no

basis for the structure as recited in claims 10 and 11. The applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner that Claims 10-11 have no support in the specification. Working Example 5 on page 13 is described as “[a] sleeve with an outer diameter of 22 mm, an inner diameter of 8 mm, and a length of 20 mm **having a spiral groove** with a depth of 0.1 mm **on the inner side of the sleeve** was fabricated by injection molding the composition 5 shown in Table 1.” This provides support for “at least one spiral groove on the inner face of the sleeve” of Claim 10. Working Example 7 on page 14 is described as a “shaft with an outer diameter of 7.95 mm and a length of 200 mm **having a spiral groove** with a depth of 0.1 mm.” Such spiral groove is also clearly shown in Figure 1 on shaft 1-1. This provides support for “the electrically motorized pump of Claim 3, wherein the shaft has at least one spiral groove on its surface” of Claim 11.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner withdraw the objection to the specification.

Claim Rejections

Rejections Under § 112

Claims 1-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph, as “being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.” Applicants believe that amendments to Claims 1-3, 4, and 7 remedy any deficiency with respect to 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph, and therefore Claims 1-19 are now allowable.

Claims 1-3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph, as being “recited in a cataloguing and structurally disconnected manner.” Claims 1, 2, and 3 have been amended to more particularly recite the structural connection between the elements of each claim. Claims

1, 2, and 3 as amended meet the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph, and therefore are now allowable.

Claim 4 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph, as having no antecedent basis for "the impeller side" and "the rotor side." Claim 4 was amended so as to depend from amended Claim 3, wherein the impeller and rotor are recited. Amended Claim 4 depends directly from amended Claim 3, which has been amended to more particularly recite the structural connection between its elements. Claim 4 as amended meets the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph, and is now allowable.

Claim 7 was rejected as having no basis for comparison for "short" and "long". Claim 7 has been amended to recite "fibers of varying lengths" in order to avoid the ambiguity of "short" and "long." Amended Claim 7 depends directly from amended Claim 3, which has been amended to more particularly recite the structural connection between its elements. Claim 7 as amended meets the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph, and is now allowable.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants have rewritten and/or amended the claims to overcome the above rejections of 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph. It is therefore believed that all claims are now in condition for allowance.

Information Disclosure Statement

Applicants note Examiner's comments regarding the Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) filed September 20, 2004, and herewith notify the Examiner that a Supplemental IDS in accord with Examiner's comments will be filed shortly.

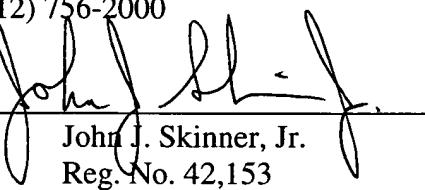
Conclusion

Since the Applicants have amended Claims 1-3 to better recite the structural and functional relationship between the elements of those claims, Claims 1-19 as amended are allowable. An early action on the merits and allowance of Claims 1-19 is requested. New claim 20 depends from claim 1 and claim 21 depends from claim 20, and therefore, claims 20 and 21 are allowable at least for the same reason as claim 1. New claim 22 depends from claim 3 and is allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 3.

The Patent & Trademark Office is authorized to charge any fees required for the entry of this Amendment, including fees for an extension of time, and any further fees that are properly assessable in this case, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0675, Order No. 051319/0163. In the event that an extension of time is needed for entry of this Amendment that is not otherwise provided for, such extension of time is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

SCHULTE ROTH & ZABEL LLP
Attorneys for Applicants
919 Third Avenue
New York, New York 10022
(212) 756-2000

By: 
John J. Skinner, Jr.
Reg. No. 42,153

Mayankkumar Dixit
Reg. No. 44,064

JJS/MD/KB